

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A beverage dispenser, comprising:
- a water supply;
 - a CO₂ source;
 - a carbonator coupled to said water supply and said CO₂ source, said carbonator including at least one hydrophobic hollow fiber proximate to which water is carbonated; and
 - a beverage syrup source, such that beverage syrup and carbonated water are dispensed to form finished drinks.
2. The dispenser of Claim 1, wherein CO₂ is supplied through said hollow fiber.
3. The dispenser of Claim 2, wherein water flows across the outside of said hollow fiber.
4. The dispenser of Claim 1, wherein water is supplied through said hollow fiber.
5. The dispenser of Claim 1, and further comprising a water treatment system, such that said water supply comprises treated water.
6. The dispenser of Claim 5, wherein said water treatment system comprises a reverse osmosis water treatment system.
7. The dispenser of Claim 6, and further comprising a reservoir coupled to said reverse osmosis water treatment system, said reservoir also being coupled to said carbonator.
8. The dispenser of Claim 1, wherein said hydrophobic hollow fiber comprises polypropylene.
9. The dispenser of Claim 1, and further comprising a plain water circuit, such that both carbonated and non-carbonated beverages may be produced.

10. The dispenser of Claim 1, and further comprising a pre-carbonator coupled to said carbonator, said pre-carbonator carbonating water before further carbonation in said carbonator.
11. The dispenser of Claim 10, wherein said pre-carbonator comprises at least one hollow fiber.
- Sub A3 12. The dispenser of Claim 10, and further comprising a reservoir coupled to said pre-carbonator, said reservoir holding carbonated water.
13. The dispenser of Claim 1, and further comprising a reservoir coupled to said carbonator, said reservoir holding carbonated water.
14. The dispenser of Claim 13, and further comprising a plain water circuit, such that both carbonated and non-carbonated beverages may be produced.
- Sub A4 15. A method of dispensing beverages, comprising:
supplying water;
supplying CO₂;
carbonating the water with the CO₂ proximate to at least one hydrophobic hollow fiber; and
dispensing carbonated water and beverage syrup to form finished drinks.
16. The method of Claim 15, and further comprising treating the water.
17. The method of Claim 15, and further comprising treating the water through reverse osmosis.
18. The method of Claim 16, and further comprising storing the treated water before carbonating.

19. The method of Claim 15, and further comprising dispensing non-carbonated water, such that both carbonated and non-carbonated beverages may be produced.
20. The method of Claim 15, and further comprising pre-carbonating the water before carbonating the water.

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